

CLAIMS

1. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) for distributing fodder and/or drink in metered portions to an animal, which feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) is provided with a feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50) for containing fodder and/or drink, an entrance opening (11, 21, 31, 41, 51) to the feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50), and a feed supplying device (13, 23, 33, 43) for supplying an amount of fodder and/or drink to the feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50), characterized in that the feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) is provided with means for weighing the fodder and/or drink present in the feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50), the feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50) being pivotably and/or rotatably fastened to the feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5,) for the purpose of co-operating with the weighing means.

2. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) further comprises an animal identification device (12, 22, 32, 42, 52) for recognizing a particular animal that visits the feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50).

3. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the feed supplying device (13, 23, 33, 43) supplies an amount of feed to the feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50) with the aid of data from the animal identification device (12, 22, 32, 42, 52).

4. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, characterized in that the means for weighing the fodder and/or drink present in the feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50) are connected to the feed supplying device (13, 23, 33, 43) for supplying an amount of fodder and/or drink to the feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50) with the aid of data both from the animal identification device (12, 22, 32, 42, 52) and the weighing means.

5. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the means for weighing the fodder and/or drink present in the feed unit comprise:

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provided a safety supporting bracket (101, 205, 58) for the feed unit.

12. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, characterized in that the means for weighing the fodder and/or drink present in the feed unit comprise:

a movable feed unit (30),

a motor (38) for moving the feed unit (30),

a device (301) for measuring the magnitude of the torque during movement and for deducing, from the magnitude of the torque measured, the weight of the fodder and/or drink present in the feed unit (30).

13. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that the motor (38) for moving the feed unit (30), and the device (301) for measuring the magnitude of the torque during movement and for deducing, from the magnitude of the torque measured, the weight of the fodder and/or drink present in the feed unit (30), are integrated in the animal identification device (32).

14. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in claim 12 or 13, characterized in that the motor (38) for moving the feed unit (30) drives a torque roll (39), which torque roll (39) is in contact with the feed unit (30).

15. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) is further provided with means (15, 16, 25, 27, 30, 40, 45, 46) for deterring an animal that visits the feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50) from taking fodder and/or drink.

16. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in claim 15, characterized in that the means (15, 16, 25, 27, 30, 40, 45, 46) for deterring an animal with the aid of data from the animal identification device (12, 22, 32, 42, 52) deter an animal.

17. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in claim 15 or 16, characterized in that the means for deterring an animal are at least partially integrated in the animal identification device (12, 22, 32, 42, 52).

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28. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in claims 7 and 25 or 14 and 25, characterized in that the roll for driving the feed unit and the torque roll respectively the measuring roll, are constituted by one roll.

30. A feed metering device (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the means for deterring an animal are at least partially integrated in the means for weighing the fodder and/or drink present in the feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50).

means for weighing the fodder and/or drink present in the feed unit (10, 20, 30, 40, 50).

15 means unit